

NOTICE.

A. S. WATSON AND CO.:
FAMILY AND DISPENSING
CHEMISTS,
By Appointment to His Excellency the Go-
VERNOR and His Royal Highness the
DUKE OF EDINBURGH,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS
PERFUMERS,
PATENT MEDICINE VENDORS,
DRUGGISTS' SUPPLYMEN,
And
ELEVATED WATER MAKERS.
SHIPS MEDICINE CHESTS REFITTED,
PASSENGER SHIPS SUPPLIED.

NOTICE.—To avoid delay in the execution of Orders it is particularly requested that all business communications be addressed to the Firm, A. S. Watson and Co., or

HONGKONG DISPENSARY. [21]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications on editorial matters should be addressed "The Editor," and those on business "The Manager," and not to individuals by name.

Correspondents are requested to forward their name and address with their communication to the Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of proof of authorship.

All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

Advertisement and Subscriptions which are not ordered for a fixed period will be continued until countermanded.

Orders for extra copies of the *Daily Press* should be sent before 11 a.m. on the day of publication.

After that hour the supply is limited.

BIRTHS.

At Swatow, on the 13th August, the wife of Dr. JOHN POTLOCK, of a daughter. [1500]

On the 23rd August, at H.B.M.'s Consulate, Pekin, the son of Mr. F. D. ATTEN, British Consul, of a daughter. [157]

On the 25th August, at Richmond Terrace, the wife of Capt. H. G. FINCH, D.A.C.G.O., Ordnance Store-Driver, of a daughter. [161]

At No. 6, Alabanda Terrace, on the morning of the 29th August, the wife of EZEKIEL J. OHADAYA, of a son. [1578]

On the 30th August, at York, the wife of THOMAS COVET, of a son. By telegram. [1600]

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, SEPTEMBER 3RD, 1885.

WHEN, some years ago, the proposition was made that a Chinese Consul should be admitted in Hongkong, we strenuously opposed the idea. The suggestion emanated from Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK, and was made in connection with the proposed revision of the Tientsin Treaty. We pointed out at the time that the establishment of a Chinese Consulate in this Colony would indeed prove an imperium in imperio compared to which the administrative assumptions of the Tung Wah Hospital Committee are of the most modest description. No Chinaman in Hongkong possessing capital would then be safe from mandarin interference, no subject of the Emperor KWANG SU residing on this island would have an opinion or will of his own. When loyalty to the Government of this Colony and obedience to its laws conflicted in any degree—however slight—with the pretensions or the interests of the Chinese officials on the mainland, the behaix of the latter would have to be obeyed, or was better the relatives of the unhappy rascals. In any matter involving the governance of the Chinese community a Chinese Consul might prove alike an obstruction and a source of danger and disagreement. Situated as Hongkong is, so close to the provinces of Kwangtung, the communication of the Chinese population of the Colony with the mainland being so constant, and the ties there-with so intimate, it would be possible for a Chinese Consul here to wield a power over the Chinese population far greater than that possessed by the Governor. The idea was preposterous, and it was dismissed, we trust, for ever, as utterly untenable and unworkable.

Even in the Straits Settlements the system does not work satisfactorily, as recent events have plainly shown. Although Singapore is separated from the Celestial Empire by a good stretch of ocean, it is not too far distant for a Chinese Consul, if so disposed, to make mischief. We remarked some time ago a statement in the *Straits Times* that the Chinese Consul there had in effect been directing the Chinese residents to subscribe to the Kwangtung Foundation Fund, and, excellent as the cause was, any compulsion in wherewithal to be deprecated. That, however, was somewhat in conformity with Chinese custom, and might perhaps be passed over if his own countrymen did not resent it. But when Mr. Tso PENG-LUNG proceeds gratuitously to make groundless statements officially, with a view to put a stop to Chinese immigration into the Malay peninsula, it becomes another matter. It seems that Mr. Tso made representations to the Authorities at Swatow stating that "coolies are not well treated here [Singapore] and are shipped to other countries where they die or are used as slaves or cattle," in consequence of which a proclamation was issued forbidding the emigration of Chinese, whose passages were not prepaid to the Straits. At the meeting of the Straits Legislative Council held on the 17th ult., Mr. SHELDON made the conduct of the Chinese Consul the subject of an interpolation to the Government, and the Acting Colonial Secretary, in replying, said:—"The action of the Chinese Consul was brought to the notice of the Government by the British Consul at Swatow. The course which Mr. Consul Tso thought fit to take was so unexpected, so inexplicable, and so entirely at variance with the facts familiar to us all respecting this class of immigration that His Excellency the Acting Governor thought it well in the first instance to invite the Chinese Consul to a personal interview, and so give him an opportunity of explaining what he referred to and of mentioning any cases he might know of in support of his position. The Consul was, however, unable to give any explanation or to mention any particular cases of oppression concerning this Colony. The British Consul at Swatow, having been assured that the representations made were not justified and were without foundation in fact, communicated this information to the Chinese authorities, with a request that their proclamation might be rescinded. He informs us in reply that the proclamation has

remained a dead-letter, and I am assured by the Consul that, as a matter of fact, the Chinese Consul's action had not had the effect of checking emigration from China."

Some changes are about to take place in the O. and O. and Pacific Mail lines of steamers from here to San Francisco. The Arabic will shortly leave for home, and a new *Arabic* and a new *Grecian* will take their places on the line. Both these vessels are much superior to the old *Arabic* and *Grecian* which were running on the line. The *Arabic* was built in 1871, and the two sister ships, both built of iron, are about 200 tons larger than the *Oceanic*. They are fitted up as regards passenger accommodation, very much in the style of the *Arabic*, with every appliance for health and comfort. The electric light is provided all over both vessels, while the refrigerating apparatus is both of a more advanced character and of a much lower degree of cold. Every latest improvement has been introduced in each steamer, which will doubtless fully maintain the reputation of the line. The *Arabic* is due here first; she is expected in Hongkong on the 15th inst. *Arabic* Cape of Good Hope—*Arabic* is expected early in October, and will come via Sydney. The early part of the voyage will be made of four steamers—*Arabic*, *Oceanic*, *Grecian*, and *Sonoma*. The Pacific Mail Steamship Company will also have four steamers on the line—the City of Peking, the City of Rio de Janeiro, the City of New York, and the City of Sydney, which last will be taken from the Australian line.

With the fall of Mr. Tso PENG-LUNG, however, we are little concerned, as it will probably matter nothing to us whether he is removed from the position he has disgraced or is spared to live another day. What we desire now is to show what we might be cumbered with if a Chinese Consul were to be appointed in Hongkong. It is true we might be favoured with a man of a higher standard and greater intelligence than Mr. Tso PENG-LUNG, but we might also, on the other hand, get a more unscrupulous and a cruder man. Mr. Tso is evidently somewhat of a fool. He had not a word to urge in defence of his shandous statements, and could not say why he advanced them. A more designing person might have set himself to invent some evidence by which to at least give a certain amount of colour to his assertions, but Mr. Tso when brought to book simply collapsed. As we have said, we want no intriguing representative of the Chinese Government in this colony; we desire to preserve for the Chinese population freedom from mandarin espionage and squeezing. Sir RICHARD MACDONNELL, in the course of a despatch, dated May 12th, 1859, commenting on Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK's proposal for a Chinese Consul in Hongkong, asserts that it would certainly cause most serious alarm to all the Chinese population; says that cases are numerous of Hongkong Chinese residents being compelled to pay, from time to time, large squeezes and exactions to the Authorities at Canton; instances the fact that during the last war with China an order from Canton recalled almost all the Chinese and servants in the place, and adds:—"With the full knowledge of the power exercised already by the officials and guilds at Canton, it will be no use as the mandarin, who is *excessively* rich, in such incongruities, to allow him to take up his residence in our midst." Sir RICHARD goes on to show that there are no useful functions a Chinese Consul here could exercise unless it were to save the delay of reference to Canton by at once backing warrants for criminals other parties amenable to British law who might have escaped to the mainland, but even in that respect a Consul would not be half so useful as the mandarin at Kowloon, who is, *excessively* rich, in almost daily correspondence with the Hongkong Police. Hardly the vires of Governor MACDONNELL and his Council, who were in complete accord with him on the subject, prevailed to smash Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK's ill-advised and injudicious suggestion, and so fully did Sir RICHARD expose the evils that would result from such an appointment that no official, however pro-Chinese, has since been able to revive it with any chance of its being entertained.

WHETHER or not the statement telegraphed by Roeter on the authority of *The Times* was true, sounds exceedingly probable. It is known, however, since Sir ROBERT HART was appointed Her Majesty's minister to Peking, and nonappointment to the post of Inspector-General of Customs vacated by him has been made. Rumours thick as the leaves in Yau-nou-hwa have been flying about concerning the vacant post for months, the candidates named have been many and various, and no little discussion has taken place on the subject. The Chinese Government would appear to have been quite unable to come to a decision in the matter. One party at Peking wished one candidate, and one another, while probably none favoured by the Tsing-li Yambo were quite acceptable to Sir ROBERT HART. It would naturally be both his wish and his duty to secure the post for a British subject, and in this he had apparently failed. No one knowing anything of Sir ROBERT HART could suppose that he has capriciously changed his mind. If he has decided to re-occupy his old post, we may rely upon it he has good reason for the step. Possibly he considered that British commercial interests were imperilled by some appointment that was contemplated, or such a change in the Service was meditated that he foresaw endless trouble ahead as its result. We shall await the confirmation or denial of this announcement with no small interest.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, 1st September. REPORTED ALLIANCE OF THE THREE EMPIRES.

It is reaffirmed that Austria, Germany, and Russia have formed an alliance at Kremser.

THE BRITISH MINISTER AT PEKING.

The Times publishes a telegram stating that Sir Robert Hart, British Minister at Peking, has resigned and will be reappointed to the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs.

SUPREME COURT.

2nd September. IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. JUSTICE ACKROYD.

MEYER AND ANOTHER v. LOUIS OXLEY.

JUDGE, SS3913.

Mr. Wilson, from the office of Messrs. Wotton and Deacon, appeared for the plaintiffs; Mr. Caldwell, for the defendant.

The defendant was re-called, and in answer to further questions from Mr. Caldwell, he said at the time he signed the gun contract, Mr. Schroeter, and not the gun manufacturer, was his sole witness that he paid any attention to the gun. He did not know that he paid any attention to the gun, and the signature of Mr. Chinaman. When the shell contract was signed himself, Mr. Schroeter, and a clerk was there, but there was no Chinaman, and if a Chinese signature was put on the contract, it was his own knowledge or consent. He was not present when the gun was signed, and the Chinese seal affixed to either of these contracts, and he never tried to do so. Witness's copy of the shell contract was left in the hands of Mr. Schroeter. The reason of this was that he had to leave in a hurry, and he asked Mr. Schroeter to keep his copy till he saw him again. His price to him for the gun and the contract was \$1,000 per gun, and before he allowed his purchaser to take it away he made his purchaser pay its price \$1,000, which he handed over to Mr. Schroeter as bargain money. He saw the gun removed, and subsequently the gun and the contract.

We have received the first number of a weekly issue of the Foochow *Daily Echo*. It reflects much credit on the publishers, but we would suggest that a name, such as the *Weekly Echo*, would be better and more convenient than the present clumsy name.

From Messrs. Guedes & Co., the local agents, we have received some sample bottles of the St. Raphael Wine advertised on our front page, and will be glad to have a sample after dinner red wine with luncheon. Please send me a few bottles.

We should imagine it would prove a wholesome and agreeable stimulant, suited to the taste of those who dislike claret and find port too heavy.

To-night at the Theatre Royal, City Hall, the English Mills Opera Company will make their first appearance in Hongkong. The company selected for representation is "The Royal Mischief," by Gogol, which will be new to many theatre-goers here, as it has never yet been given in Hongkong. The performance is under the patronage of their Excellencies Governor Sir George Bowen and Major-General Cameron, C.B. We expect to see a well-filled house.

The Aquatic Sports of the Victoria Recreation Club for this year will take place at the Swimming Bath on Friday and Saturday next, commencing each afternoon at four o'clock.

Fortunately in this case, therefore, the mendacious assertions of a pragmatist official were rendered harmless by their prompt exposure; but other reckless statements may not be soon detected and may do incalculable injury before they are brought to light. The Straits Government have passed lightly over this grave lapse on the part of Mr. Tso PENG-LUNG, possibly because they consider like the *Straits Times*, that he is a well-meaning man; but for our part we fail to see why such indulgence should be shown. If a flagrant piece of misrepresentation, mischievously designed, following on a previous attempt to misuse his official position, is not sufficient reason for the withdrawal of Her Majesty's Excellency recognising him as Consul, we are at a loss to know what would call for such action.

With the fall of Mr. Tso PENG-LUNG,

the Aquatic Sports of the Victoria Recreation Club for this year will take place at the Swimming Bath on Friday and Saturday next, commencing each afternoon at four o'clock.

Some changes are about to take place in the O. and O. and Pacific Mail lines of steamers from here to San Francisco. The Arabic will shortly leave for home, and a new *Arabic* will take their places on the line. Both these vessels are much superior to the old *Arabic* and *Grecian* which were running on the line.

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a few hours. Throughout the night of the 24th instant the barometer continued to fall, and the lowest point of the barometer being reached at 45 minutes past midnight. From that time until 3 a.m. the barometer ran up almost as rapidly as it fell, and before noon on the 25th there was no less than 11° in the air, and nothing visible on land but sand, mud, and wreckage. Many trees were shorn of their principal branches, and one large lamp-post was broken in the 90° heat between one and two o'clock in the afternoon. The Manilaman was converted into three large balls of sponge along Canton Road; they were set upon by two Lekin runners, who attempted to wring the oil from them by force. A fight ensued, a number of other Chinese coming to the aid of the runners. It is said that the Manilaman had his left forward rudder fractured, and that the wind and waves against him, Captain Smith steered a course for Shanghai. On the 12th, when the Wallace was 40 miles S.W. of Quelpart, which was in sight, H.M.S. *Pegasus* hove down up her and took her in tow, but she would not steer, having no rudder. The consequences was that the Wallace had to give up all hope of reaching the port of safety, the *Pegasus*. The crew consisted of twenty-four men, twenty-nine of whom were foreigners, the rest being Chinese. These latter wanted to leave the ship and go away in the *Pegasus*, which they expected to reach in the early boat that was left. Captain Smith told them that they could not have the boat, but if they wanted to go they would have to swim for it, at the same time advising them not to do so, as they would be lost. It is necessary to say that the desired effect, and the Chinese returned to their work. The commander of the *Pegasus* finally offered to take Mrs. Smith, who was very ill on board, and two children, who were in the cabin at the time, to the *Pegasus*, and when she was eight, they were found dead inside. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

The Douglas steamer *Talisman*, Captain Pocock, had a similar experience. He had been captured, as regards his man-of-war, and private Joss ceremonies are rather too much the fashion, but notwithstanding all this the people, and we may say even the dogs, of the town are friendly disposed under ordinary circumstances towards foreigners. This being so, and Tawatuan being the place of business in the north, it must consequently rise in importance as the tea trade increases.

THE TYPHOON AT FOOCHOW.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

FOOCHOW, 27th August.
On Monday at noon, the 24th instant, it was very evident that we were in for a blow of some sort, but it was to be a small one, as was not shown by the glass till late in the evening. At 8 p.m. a gale had been received from Amoy about 6 p.m. to the effect that a typhoon was present there and that the centre would probably strike Foochow about 4 a.m. on Tuesday. As night came on and the wind increased, old stagers got out their typhoon hats and prepared for the worst; but some with a faith which it encouraged became almost hysterical, caused by such a thought as that they might be caught in such a typhoon. The wind increased still more during the night, business completely stopped, and the force of the wind increased steadily till 5 a.m., when, although the wind retained its force, it was fairly steady from S. to S.E.

Almost every house on the hill suffered more or less, particularly trees, gardens, and plaster, but with one or two exceptions, no very serious damage was done. One house in particular, situated on the hill, was entirely demolished, and, to its owner's disgrace, had, like Ariane's grindstone, "not been heard from since."

On the river side two junks got adrift and took up the E-W bond, on which they managed to inflict a good deal of damage, but got off and anchored about 100 feet thereto. Two other junks, not so fortunate, took a shot at the "Whales" (Turner & Co.), Defence Wall, and got stuck fast. They were pulled ashore in consequence of the U.S. gunboat Monterey being fired on, and smashing that cannon on to Tsin Yu (John Forster & Co.), shipping off house and junks, which they knocked into a cocked hat and then went down, several persons being unfortunately drowned. All the junks, from E-W to Siemson & Co., are much damaged and knocked about.

On Tuesday the 25th the Foreign Settlement looked like a bombarded town. On the hill-trees were prostrate houses stripped of plaster, holes in roofs, tiles off, &c., &c. Near the river banks were broken, stones scattered about, houses unroofed, no one in the streets (all natives being engaged in looting floating timber, broken boats, &c.). The gunboat *Palau* stood up all night and seemed to be in rather a dangerous position from junks in the morning, but came out of it all right.

It continued blowing from S. to S.E. all the night of the 25th, but then subsided, rain still continuing, which brought down quantities of plaster and a good many walls. From down river it is reported that all vessels are safe, but some cargo boats are high and dry in paddies fields, and five men are said to have been drowned.

The weather has greatly improved by the blow, and we expect it is now over, but we are still awaiting the cholera epidemic with which we were threatened last week. Ships took advantage of a favourable wind and have arrived in fair numbers.

THE BURNING OF THE AMERICAN SHIP "PHINEAS PEALETON."

The Manila papers contain brief accounts of the burning of the American ship *Phineas Pealeton* at this port. The vessel was anchored in the bay, taking in a heavy load for New York. She had nearly completed loading and had on board 15,500 piculs, worth \$140,000. The fire broke out about half-past ten on the night of the 6th August in the fore part of the ship, and it is said that the crew had been sent ashore to help to subdue it, fire guns were fired at twelve o'clock as a signal for assistance. This was sent from the port as soon as possible, but that was not before daylight, as the gunboat *Probus* could not get up steam earlier. The tugboats *Filis* and *Jenny* and the Government launch *Manta* also went out to the burning vessel. It was some time before she could be got to the surface, and the crew were in the cables, the whole deck broken in pieces, and the only means of attachment being the fastenings of the wire rigging in the sides. Finally the cables were made fast, and the burning vessel was towed away from Malata, where she was scuttled. The fire is described as having been a magnificent one. At a time it broke out the vessel had only eight men on deck, and the crew to take on board what was expected to amount to a dozen or two. The hall and main deck were burnt, and, according to Mr. S. Morris, the buyer of both lots, the hall for \$1,500 and the cargo for \$8,000.

THE LOSS OF THE GERMAN BARQUE "WILLY."

By the Spanish mail steamer *Gloriosa* there arrived on the 24th August, we learned from the Consul at Manila, that one of the German steamers, one of the passengers of the German barque *Willy*, which has been totally lost on the Fiery Cross about 120 miles from North Danger, as already reported by telegram. The shipwrecked men made the voyage from the wreck to Balabac, a distance of three hundred miles, in two boats, the passage occupying eight days, a comparatively short time considering the number of men lost. They are the advantage of the south-west monsoon. The Governor of Balabac treated the shipwrecked people with every possible care and sent them on to Manila by the *Gloriosa*.

ILLEGAL SEIZURES OF OPIUM BY LEKIN RUNNERS IN SHANGAI.

We have to record a third seizure of opium by Lekin runners in the month of August, this last one having taken place in Stechou Road at 10.45 a.m. on the 24th ult. The opium which consisted of ten packages containing two small balls each, the paper wrappers bearing the name "Thomas Ignatio & Co." was being carried along by a Chinaman who describes himself as a writer in a lodging house in Canton Road, when he was seized by the Lekin runners, who are the drug and opium runners taken to the Central Police Station. The Chinaman was subsequently bailed out in the sum of \$100 from the lodging-house keeper. In this instance, Mr. Ignatio, six large balls of whose opium were seized by the Lekin runners in the 22nd ult. as already reported by us, lays no claim to the drug, which was sold to him by a Chinaman some time ago. It remains to be seen what the fate of all the seized opium by Lekin runners of opium within the Settlement, hitherto considered sacred ground, will be.

At the Mixed Court, on the 26th August, Mr. Playfair sitting as British Assessor, the opium seizure by Lekin runners in Stechou Road on the 24th ult., this last one having taken place in Stechou Road at 10.45 a.m. on the 24th ult. The opium which consisted of ten packages containing two small balls each, the paper wrappers bearing the name "Thomas Ignatio & Co." was being carried along by a Chinaman who describes himself as a writer in a lodging house in Canton Road, when he was seized by the Lekin runners, who are the drug and opium runners taken to the Central Police Station. The Chinaman was subsequently bailed out in the sum of \$100 from the lodging-house keeper. In this instance, Mr. Ignatio, six large balls of whose opium were seized by the Lekin runners in the 22nd ult. as already reported by us, lays no claim to the drug, which was sold to him by a Chinaman some time ago. It remains to be seen what the fate of all the seized opium by Lekin runners of opium within the Settlement, hitherto considered sacred ground, will be.

At the Mixed Court, on the 26th August, Mr. Playfair sitting as British Assessor, the opium seizure by Lekin runners in Stechou Road on Monday night, the 24th, was investigated. The Chinaman in whose possession the drug was found said he bought the opium from the "Chung-fu," but, however, that he had known nothing about any new lekkin, he had not seen any regulations or proclamations that lekkin was to be levied in the Settlement, and did not consider the seizure was justifiable. He also stated he was going to use the opium in the Settlement. Mr. Playfair addressed the defendant, and that the opium belonged to Chinese, it could not be confiscated, but that he had no right to sell it. The Chinaman, who was giving tickets to the Lekin runners, promised to report the *Wallace* at Hongkong, left. By the 13th the crew had managed to get the water out of the hold, and the vessel righted up. A jury rudder was built, but it could not be shipped on account of the heavy swell. In the meantime a attempt of steering was made with a harpoon, the bright of which was towing astern, while the crew were attending to the rudder. The Harbour Master has four buoys ready to moor in the upper reaches of the river, to indicate newly formed spots and other obstructions; but he has not yet obtained the necessary permission to place them.

A Chinaman met with a violent death in the harbour on Saturday afternoon, the 29th August. He had gone with another man in a sampan along side the chartered steamer *Glengyle* to get some fur-clothes. It was not being convenient, to let him go with the boat, so he was given to the deck hands, and the abandonment of the Reserve, we now learn that the chartered owners are to be delivered up to their owners almost immediately. The steamer *Rosetta* will be handed over to the P. and O. Company in a day or two, and, if possible, will take on the masts, &c., of the *Telesar* to Shanghai. The *Glengyle*, on her return from the 25th ult., will be handed over to the *Aspinwall* of the Olsen Line, and the *Aspinwall* will also be restored to her owners, and probably return to India.

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At the Mixed Court, on the 26th August, Mr. Playfair, after returning to the Court, after a considerable delay, Kao, addressing the defendant, said that as the opium belonged to Chinese, it could not be confiscated, but that he had no right to sell it.

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